Claims

What is claimed is:

1. A plug-in computer program stored on a local host computer for transferring data between an input device and a remotely-located computer that is connected to said local host computer by a computer network, comprising:

(a) software for receiving data from said input device;

(b) software for formatting said received data so that it can be transferred over said computer network to said remotely-located computer; and

(c) software for transmitting said received data to said remotely-located computer over said computer network.

2. A computer program as in claim 1, wherein said computer network is the Internet and said remotely-located computer is a web server.

3. A computer program as in claim 1, wherein said input device is a digitizer pad.

4. A computer program as in claim 1, wherein said input device is a digital camera.

5. A computer program as in claim 1, wherein said local host computer is an Internet-enabled computer connected to said remotely-located computer via the Internet.

6. A computer program as in claim 5, wherein said program is a browser plug-in.

7. A computer program as in claim 1, wherein said host computer is an Internet-enabled personal digital assistant.

8. A computer program as in claim 7, wherein said plug-in computer program is a PRC.

9.   A computer program as in claim 6, wherein said browser plug-in is downloaded to said local host computer via the Internet.

10.   A computer program as in claim 6, wherein said browser plug-in comprises software that enables communication based on a communications protocol specific to the input device.

11.   A computer program as in claim 1, wherein said formatted data is packaged into an HTML POST command data packet.

12.   A system for transmitting data, comprising:

(a) an input device; and

(b) a host computer; wherein said input device is configured to transmit data to said host computer, and wherein said host computer is connected to a computer network and stores a plug-in computer program that comprises:

(i) software for receiving data from said input device;

(ii) software for formatting said received data so that it can be transferred over said computer network to said remotely-located computer; and

(iii) software for transmitting said received data to said remotely-located computer over said computer network.

13.   A system as in claim 12, wherein said computer network is the Internet.

14.   A system as in claim 12, wherein said input device is a digitizer pad.

15.   A system as in claim 12, wherein said input device is a digital camera.

16.   A system as in claim 12, wherein said host computer is an Internet-enabled computer connected to a remotely-located computer via the Internet.

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17.   A system as in claim 12, wherein said host computer is an Internet-enabled personal digital assistant.

18.   A system as in claim 17, wherein said plug-in computer program is a PRC.

19.   A system as in claim 16, wherein said computer program is a browser plug-in.

20.   A system as in claim 19, wherein said browser plug-in is downloaded to said host computer via the Internet.

21.   A system as in claim 19, wherein said browser plug-in comprises software that enables communication based on a communications protocol specific to the input device.

22.   A system as in claim 12, wherein said formatted data is packaged into an HTML POST command data packet.

23.   A method of transmitting data from an input device to a remotely-located computer, comprising the steps of:

(a) establishing a communication link between a local host computer and said remotely-located computer over a computer network using a network browser;

(b) establishing a communication link between said input device and said local host computer;

(c) receiving data from said input device;

(d) formatting said received data so that it can be transferred over said computer network to said remotely-located computer; and

(e) transmitting said received data to said remotely-located computer over said computer network, wherein said steps of receiving data, formatting data, and transmitting data are performed using a plug-in computer program.

24.   A method as in claim 23, wherein said computer network is the Internet.

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25.   A method as in claim 23, wherein said input device is a digitizer pad.

26.   A method as in claim 23, wherein said input device is a digital camera.

27.   A method as in claim 23, wherein said plug-in is downloaded to said host computer via the Internet.

28.   A method as in claim 23, wherein said host computer is an Internet-enabled personal digital assistant.

29.   A method as in claim 28, wherein said plug-in computer program is a PRC.

30.   A method as in claim 23, wherein said plug-in comprises software that enables communication based on a communications protocol specific to the input device.

31.   A method as in claim 23, wherein said formatted data is packaged into an HTML POST command data packet.

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